

MEXICO MISSOURI MESSAGE.

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NO. 13

JUDGE BOTTS MAKES REPLY

To the Editor of the Message:—In your issue of February 6th you state in your editorial columns that you have been informed that a capable and honorable man of means offered us \$200,000 for the property of the Traction Company.

Your information in this matter is very incorrect. Nobody has ever offered us \$200,000, or any other sum, for the property. In fact, we have had no offers at all.

The gentleman you referred to in your editorial asked us to make him an offer to sell him the property, and give him 30 days time in which to accept, and the terms of the sale were about as follows: Leave \$43,750 in bonds in the hands of the people who now hold them; leave the \$35,000 in partial payments for bonds as they stand, and leave it to him to settle with those people; pay all the debts, including accrued interest on bonds, except the principal of the Fruin Bambrick judgment, and guarantee that there should be no other debt against the company. Then leave enough stock outstanding to make up the \$200,000.

To recapitulate: We were to offer to sell all the property to the company to him, so that there would be against it in round numbers: Fruin Bambrick judgment \$48,000; Bonds \$43,750; Partial Payments for bonds, \$35,000; Stock, \$73,250.

This proposition, remember, we were to make to him. It made it necessary for us to pay about \$10,000, possibly more than that amount. This meant that we were to pay \$10,000 cash to get him to take the thing off our hands. It put all the losses on the directors and left them practically nothing but stock which we regarded as worthless. But, mark you, we were to make HIM this proposition and give him 30 days time in which to TRY to see whether he could raise money enough to build the road to Hereford and Santa Fe. If he could find the money he would accept the proposition. If he could not he would not accept. We learned that he expected to get a large part of his money from the old subscribers and did not believe he could do it in 30 days or many times 30 days.

But all of those of us, who have brought the foreclosure suit, signed the document, giving him the option as soon as it was reduced to writing, and tried for months to get the thing through. We warned all the interested parties that we could not let the matter run past the March term of court. We waited until the last day and filed the suit.

W. W. Botts.

Mr. F. L. Crosby is the man to whom the Message referred last week as the party who would have bought, built and extended the electric railway. Judge Botts, of course, as an officer of the Traction Co., sees the situation as he gives it above. The Message gave the situation from the outside, and as other officers of the Traction Company see it.

Appropos to all this we give an interview below handed us by Mr. Crosby:

"I regret that my name has been brought into discussion of the affairs of the Mexico, Santa Fe & Perry Traction Co., which discussion was precipitated by the effort to have a receiver appointed to sell out the road. How-

ever, since the question has been opened up I feel that it is my duty to state the facts relative to the matter, which, briefly stated, are as follows:

"About the latter part of last October I was approached by members of the Board of Directors of the said traction company and requested to submit to the board a proposition by which I would undertake to complete the road to Santa Fe and to Hereford. I told them that I could not make a proposition that would bind me without first being given a little time in which to investigate the legal status of the road, and also a little time in which to perfect my organization. But that I would prepare a proposition, which, if the board of directors would sign up, would give me thirty days in which to investigate the above-stated matters and that if I found them in a satisfactory condition I would undertake to complete the road to the points above named before January 1, 1914, and that if I failed to do this I would forfeit the sum of ten thousand dollars for such failure.

The proposition as prepared by me was in the form of an option to purchase and embodied the following conditions: That I should pay in cash or assume the payment of the Fruin-Bambrick debt of approximately forty-eight thousand dollars; that I assume the company's obligations to subscribers for partial payments made by them on bonds to an amount not exceeding \$35,000; and these obligations which I was to assume and which added to outstanding bonds and stock that I was willing to let stand, would make two hundred thousand dollars, which was the agreed purchase price of the road.

"At that time the company owed debts other than those stated, aggregating about ten thousand dollars. But it held notes that were considered good to the amount of something over five thousand dollars and which the terms of my proposition permitted it to collect and apply on the payment of these debts so that members of the Traction Co. would really only have to raise about five thousand dollars in order to meet my requirements. Members of the board of directors talked in favor of my proposition but the matter dragged on and they failed to sign up; along about December I told them that since so much good time had been lost since I made the proposition that I would require more time in which to complete the road. They agreed to this, but some of them still failed to sign, and the fact is that up to the present time there are some of the directors who have never signed the proposition and of course I could not afford to start in on the work until I had a contract authorizing me to do so, which has never yet been fully signed up by the board of directors."

Allene Crosswhite and Susan Zeyes, 13 and 14 years old, ran away from their home at Columbia one day last week, walking seven miles to Hallsville, and took the train for Mexico. They said they were on their way to Chicago. They were arrested here and returned home.

Mrs. J. W. Summers, of Laddonia, visited her brother's family, Mr. James Braden, in Mexico this week.

Mr. S. H. Bennett of Farber and Miss Jessie Trower of Vandalia were married in Mexico Wednesday of last week, Judge W. W. Botts officiating.

COUNTY COURT PROCEEDINGS

At the February session of the County Court the following road overseers were appointed for the ensuing year:

A. A. Gannaway, overseer for road district No. 1; Isaac E. Dye, 3; W. E. Ball, 6; S. S. Coons, 7; O. T. Miller, 8; O. E. Snedeker, 11; John M. Young, 13; John Hagan, 14; T. U. Stuart, 17; J. A. Henderson, 18; J. W. Beamer, 21; C. A. Candy, 22; Jesse Burnett, 23; J. W. Curry, 24; W. W. Zumwalt, 25; F. E. Curry, 26; C. E. Sims, 27; Geo. D. Gorman, 29; H. H. Long, 30; Perry Palmer, 31; W. Y. Jones, 33; J. A. Given, 34; E. F. Carper, 35; James Childers, 36; L. B. Winterhalter, 43; E. W. Lierheimer, 44; C. L. Smallwood, 45; George Kellerhals, 46; John R. Scott, 47; Floyd Lewton, 49; Buell Edwin, 50; D. B. Barnes, 51; B. L. Frisbie, 52; W. E. Detienne, 53; John Culwell, 54; J. Lank Heim, 55; Joe Linneman, 57; J. W. Peery, 58; Grover Weber, 59; H. H. Rhoads, 60; F. D. Parsons, 61; A. C. Pledge, 62; H. P. Crum, 64; Rothwell Crews, 66; Gillis Wilson, 69; Jesse White, 72.

Bills were allowed as follows:

A. T. Chase, bridge, \$8; S. S. Coons, bridge, \$28.63; LaCrosse Lumber Co., bridge supplies, \$27; O. W. Hoffmeyer, bridge lumber, \$10.45; Intelligence Pub. Co., supplies Recorder, \$12.50; Mexico Power Co., supplies Court House, \$1.05; Mexico Power Co., light, Court House, \$53.50; Mexico Power Co., water Court House, \$6.20; Joe B. Daniels, repair Court House, \$2.25; Horace Mundy, supplies County Farm, \$2; Standard Printing Co., supplies Circuit Clerk, \$2.08; R. C. Paul & Sons, supplies jail, \$4.60; Ricketts & Emmons D. G. Co., supplies jail, \$15.50; Berger & Ball, repairs jail, \$2.70; L. W. Roberts, supplies jail, \$13.50; Mexico Power Co., water, jail, \$1.50; J. W. Barnett, board, jail prisoners, \$216.50; J. B. Graham, stamps, freight, etc., \$10.60; State Hospital No. 2, County Inmate, \$83; J. W. Barnett, supplies poor person, \$5; J. L. Shobe, salary, superintendent schools, \$300; H. H. Graftord, salary Treasurer, \$83.33; E. F. Elliott, stamps, etc., \$10.75; J. W. Dry, supplies County Farm, \$4.35; Mexico Message, supplies Supt. of Schools, \$14.90; Moore & Fields, supplies County Farm, \$27.30; W. S. Hamilton, supplies County Farm, \$55.21; H. H. Graftord, stamps, etc., \$2.05; W. L. Craddock, supplies Recorder, \$2.65; Llewellyn & Sons, supplies Court House, \$3; LaCrosse Lumber Co., supplies bridges, \$27.30; W. D. Craddock, supplies County Clerk, \$4; W. L. Craddock, supplies Assessor, 40 cents; Mexico Ledger, printing, \$8.50; E. O. Snedeker, bridge work, \$12.25; W. R. Rodes, examining insane, \$1.50; R. W. Berrey, examining insane, \$1.50; A. C. Whitson, salary for Jan., \$66.67; Otis Purdy, bridge supplies, 85 cents; Otis Purdy, supplies County Farm, \$1.70; Otis Purdy, Board of Health supplies, \$2.65; D. B. Barnes, bridge supplies, \$5.60; Dr. R. W. Berrey, jail physician, \$12.50; Dr. R. W. Berrey, Co. Farm physician, \$12.50; J. H. Wayne, J. P. supplies, \$1.65; R. S. McKinney, salary road and bridge com., \$41.56; C. C. Bledsoe, four days' justice, \$20.75; J. W. Beagles, same, \$21.80; C. L. Leitch, agent Pan-American Bridge Co., on contracts, \$2,500.

Petition presented by J. H. Bryan and others to change public road in 34-53-12 examined, and approved and ordered to the Commissioner.

Quarterly settlement of H. H. Graftord, treasurer, with county revenue, examined and approved.

S. D. Stocks appointed Justice of the Peace of Salt River township to serve the unexpired term of John T. Baker, deceased.

Report of J. L. Shobe, County Superintendent, examined and approved.

Dr. Robert C. Strode appointed a member of the Board of Health.

TELEPHONE EX- CHANGE SOLD

The representatives of eight mutual telephone companies met in Mexico last Saturday and completed the arrangements for buying the Mexico mutual exchange. The eight companies will organize with a capital stock of \$5,000, \$2,500 paid up. The organization will be known as the Audrain Mutual Telephone Co.

The companies interested are as follows: Benton City, represented in the meeting last Saturday by Amos Harris, who pledged for his company \$1,000 on 200 shares. Auxvasse, Ed. Boyd, \$500; Martinsburg, Mr. Kleinsorge, \$75; Harris & Pfitzer, Noble Barnes, \$70; Beaver Dam, John Burns, \$120; Worcester, R. W. Wilkerson, \$75; Molino, Mr. Boler, \$100; Rush Hill, Val Erdel, \$490. Total, \$2,500.

The following committee is to report in Mexico on March 8th—to perfect organization, corporation papers, and to have constitution and by-laws ready to be acted upon: W. C. Atkins, Rush Hill, chairman; W. E. Boyd, of Auxvasse, and Noble Barnes, Frank James and Sam Burns, of Mexico.

The men in the meeting Saturday were determined; they did a splendid work and we hope to see the other mutuals of the county come across and help them out of their pledges and guarantees of money.

MRS. ESTHER JOHNSON.

Mother-in-Law of Judge John Beagles Passes Away.

Mrs. Esther Johnson, 78 years old, the mother-in-law of Judge John W. Beagles, died at the latter's home, near Worcester, last Friday morning. Deceased is survived by two daughters, Mrs. J. W. Beagles, of Worcester, and Mrs. John Hinman, of Moberly, and one son, Sim Johnson, of Denver, Colo.

The funeral was held at the Beagles home Saturday morning, funeral discourse by Rev. Alonzo Pearson of Louisiana, after which the body was brought to Mexico for interment, burial in Elmwood.

Mrs. Johnson was a devoted Christian and beloved by a large circle of friends. The community mourns her death.

Two Girls Leave Home—Eppa Pasley's Hurt—John Maggio Insane.

Mr. and Mrs. M. D. Harris and their two children, 7 and 9 years old, and Mr. Harris's mother were burned to death recently at their home near Richland, Iowa, according to the Martinsburg Oracle. Mrs. Harris was a sister of Mrs. J. E. Barker of Martinsburg.

John Maggio, who killed his wife in Kansas City some time ago, who before her marriage was Miss Maggie Fox of Mexico, was adjudged insane last week and will be confined in an asylum. Maggio and his wife were both deaf.

We are sorry to hear that Eppa Pasley, of Rush Hill, who was hurt last fall in a railroad accident in Illinois, is still in quite a serious condition. Mr. Pasley has lately returned from a hospital in Chicago where he was confined for a month. He is suffering from curvature of the spine.

Arthur Wright, down Laddonia way, and his young friend, Howard Risk, paid the Message an appreciated call a few days ago. Mr. Risk subscribed for the Message. His father was the late H. D. Risk, a member of the County Court at the time of his death two years ago.

George Downs, of Rush Hill, is in Greensburg, Kansas, and thinks of making that city his home.

SOME INTERVIEWS.

T. J. Bybee's Purchase—Charlie Martien's Prosperity—Dr. Parrish Talks.

G. G. Beebe: I lived for several years at Farber and then I moved to Laddonia. Eph Beebe and I ran a brick yard at Laddonia for some time. Eph is now at Boswell, Okla., and I am in Wyandotte, Kan. I am doing well—have a position with a street car company. Mrs. Beebe and I are just returning home from a visit to relatives in St. Louis, Calhoun county, Ill., and Pike county, Mo. We shall never forget our many friends in good old Audrain.

Dr. J. C. Parrish: About 29 members of the commercial club of Vandalia went down to Louisiana Friday night to hear Mr. Chas. Cooper lecture on the Keokuk Dam project. We want to have that power extended to Vandalia if we can get a better rate than otherwise. The people, generally, do not realize what a wonderful scheme that Keokuk dam project is. They'll be sending electric power all over the upper Mississippi valley in a few years. We're glad you're to have Mr. Cooper's lecture in Mexico in April. He's a wonderful fellow; it is said that his company thinks so much of him that they have put \$3,000,000 insurance on his life.

T. J. Bybee: I have become the proprietor of the Sneed home, residence and 10 acres of ground, near the Fair Grounds, and moved to it from north of Mexico a few days ago. It's a valuable little piece of property and I wouldn't take a big commission over what it cost me.

R. A. Boyd: Mrs. Boyd and I were over at Auxvasse last week to see my father, J. A. Y. Boyd. Father takes the Message, but he has to get somebody to do all his reading for him. He will be 90 years old if he lives to next August. He is healthy and happy as the years come and go, even if his eyesight is dimmed.

Charlie Martien: I live up near Tulip, just over the line from Audrain; one of the best farming localities in this section of the State. I used to live out north of Mexico, and my wife and I have been visiting relatives and friends out that way this week. I am doing nicely up at Tulip. Am caring for a 240 acre farm. There is a 100 acre bluegrass pasture on the place, and it is a daisy too. I am feeding a load of extra good two year old cattle; they will be ready for the July market. I have a load of hogs on feed also. I have lost no hogs, neither have any of my nearby neighbors, but some out from us have lost heavily. Keep the good old Message coming, Mr. Editor, it's the best paper that we get in our home.

Representative E. A. Shannon and wife were over from Jefferson City Saturday and Sunday. Mr. Shannon's bill introduced in the House to repeal the Collateral Inheritance Tax was defeated in committee and that means its defeat before the House.

Sheriff J. W. Barnett was the happy recipient a few days ago of a handsome gold badge, with his name engraved thereon, presented to him by his friends about the court house.

Robert and Bert Davis have opened a livery barn in Rush Hill.



County Judge John W. Beagles.

Mr. J. T. Anderson and Miss Bertha Fuqua, both of the community north of Laddonia, were married at the Ringo Hotel in Mexico Wednesday of last week. Rev. H. B. Rice officiating. It's a splendid young couple and the Message wishes them happiness and prosperity thru life.

MOLINO BANK IS ORGANIZED

The stockholders of the Molino Bank met last Friday and organized. The directors elected were as follows: T. C. Botts, James Crawford, W. W. Mundy, Joseph Ware and Dr. J. F. Flynt.

The bank is to have a capital stock of \$10,000 and all the money has been subscribed. Arrangements were perfected this week toward getting a charter.

Molino is a splendid farming and stock community—is at one present terminus of the electric railway—and we predict that a bank there will do a splendid business. We wish the new enterprise every success.

POWELL FORD.

Coldest of the winter. Snow on the ground all week.

Miss Ruth Cook will give a Valentine box to her school Feb. 14. The pupils anticipate a splendid time.

Earl Carter purchased some stock hogs of Euell Pasley, delivered Friday.

Milford Berry bought some corn, 45c bu., from Clarence Swift.

Conrad Schutte and family moved last week to near Littleby Station, to the farm known to many as the J. Smith farm.

Frank Brenton, east of Mexico, spent Friday with his aunt, Mrs. T. J. Powell, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Milford Berry spent Thursday of last week with Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Floyd, of Mexico.

Mrs. Earl Carter and children spent last week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gill of Mexico. Mr. Carter has been at the bedside of his father for quite a while. We are glad to hear the condition of Judge Carter is improving.

Several attended the funeral of little Earl Wilson from this vicinity at Rising Sun church, last Sunday. All extend sympathy to the bereaved.

Locates in Texas.

Theo H. Miller, son of E. C. S. Miller of Mexico, writes us the following note:

Bay City, Texas, Feb. 4, 1913. Mr. John Beal,

Dear Friend:—Will you please send my Message hereafter to Bay City, Texas. This is a fine country and I expect to make it my home, but I must have the Message. Yours, Theo. H. Miller.

Jeff Allison and family, near Beaver Dam, are enjoying a visit from their daughter from Colorado.

J. W. Lee, the dairyman, has leased the lower floor of the new Masonic building and will use it as a milk station.

Earl Hickman, of Farber, who has been seriously ill, is now much better, we are glad to report.

R. H. Crews, near Laddonia, called the other day and added his name to the Message subscription list.

The infant son of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Coose, of this city, died last Friday.

Mexico Savings Bank
Capital Stock, \$100,000.00
43rd Year in Business.
W. W. FRY, President.
SAM LOCKE, Cashier.